

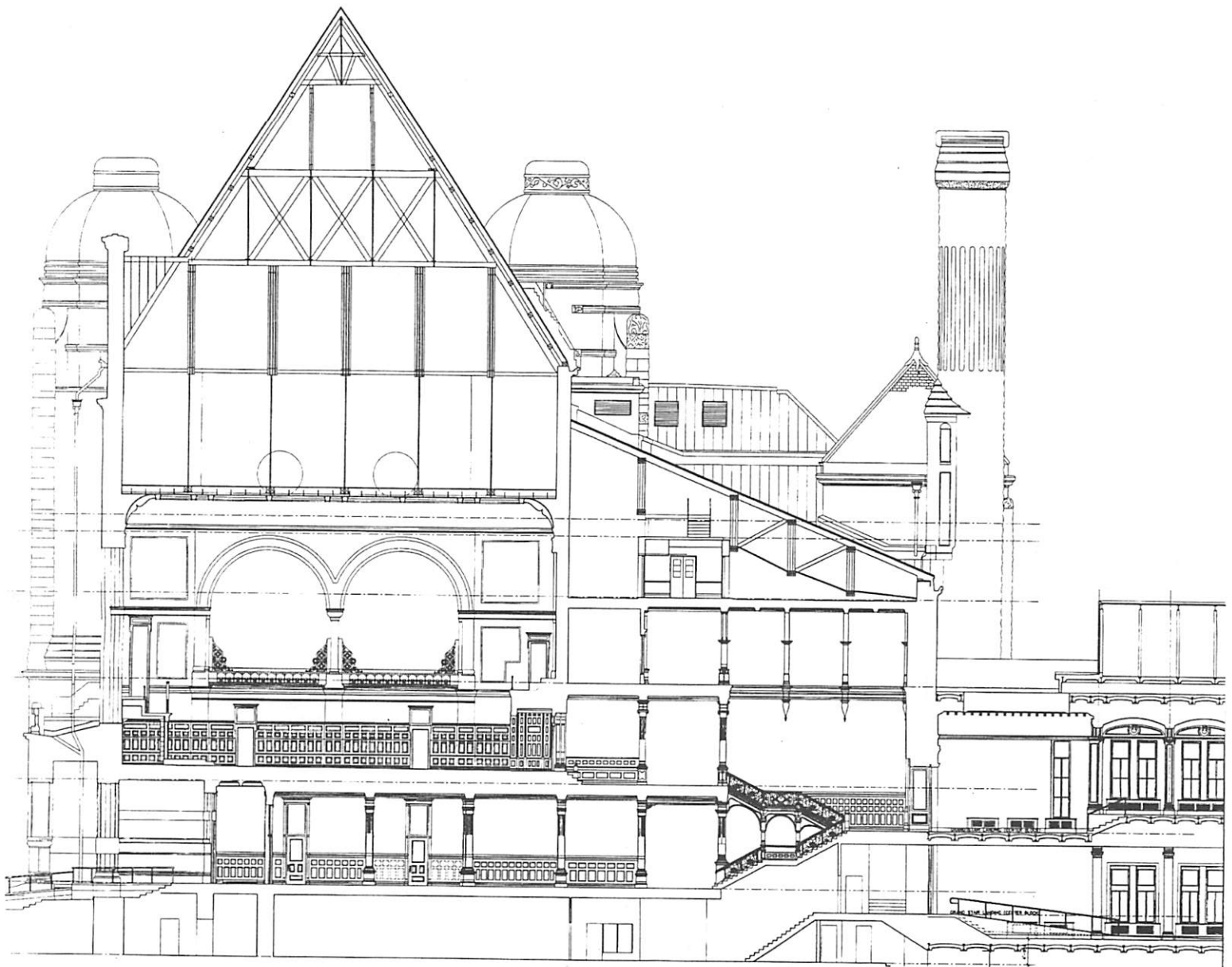
ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario



XXI 2

Summer 1996



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

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Incorporated in 1933 to preserve buildings and structures of architectural merit and places of natural beauty or interest

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Editorial

Another successful conference and annual meeting has taken place. Unless you have been involved in organizing one you do not perhaps realize the tremendous amount of work that has to be done to get the event ready. We are grateful to Heritage Oxford and to members of the ACO Provincial Executive for their efforts. The conference is described in some detail in this issue. If you have not attended a conference or an annual meeting lately, you should. I would encourage you to take part in these, the ACO's major events of the year.

Mid-summer is here already and time for relaxation and holidays. Try, if possible, to see at least one or more historic sites while you are vacationing. We plan to visit the Markham Museum and Village. We will feature it in the next issue of *ACORN*.

We were unhappy to learn that the grants from the Ministry for designated properties were not available at this time due to severe budget cuts.

Many LACACs count on these funds to aid in restoring some aspects of the designated buildings in their area. Not many LACACs are as fortunate as the one in London that has some funds available through a foundation that was set up a few years ago to aid a variety of heritage groups in that city. As chairman of the Waterloo LACAC, I am quite concerned about the loss of the Provincial funding and we are looking into setting up some sort of a foundation to replace the lost grants.

Museums and pioneer villages and individual heritage house museums have all had to live with major cuts to their budgets. They can no longer rely on the government to provide the funds they once did. It means they have to be very frugal, very innovative and very dedicated to keep going. We must also be prepared to volunteer more of our time to these places if we expect them to exist for the long term. So much has been done to preserve our architectural heritage, but more is still needed. I know we ask a lot of you—so many of us are busy already—but if we all give just a little bit more of our money and a little bit more of our time to the worthy cause, perhaps we can see it through until economic times improve.

President's Report

I cannot express how grateful I am at the response to the direct mail campaign. We are now solvent but we still must be careful. At the meeting of all the heritage groups with the Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, The Honourable Marilyn Mushinski announced that their budget this year would be 40% less in grants than those given out last year and next year there would be a further 12% reduction. Marilyn Mushinski held out no hope of any grants in the third year as she had no idea what the ministry funding would be then. The present government wishes all groups to depend less and less on government funding and more on their own fund-raising. To achieve cost efficiency the ACO is working with other heritage organizations whenever possible, planning to combine workshops, conferences and mailings.

Much thanks goes to the fund-raising committee, Pat Rosebrugh and Mary Angela Tucker and the many people who helped with the mechanics of getting the mailing out. We are grateful to Dory Vanderhoof for his valuable advice and to Catharine Ramsey for her many hours on the computer. Betty Dashwood and Pat and David Sculthorpe lent their houses for work parties and we had several days of envelope stuffing, made fun by the people who came to help - Charm Dennys, Barbara Irwin, Helen Thompson, Alec Keefer, Martin Ahermaa, Julia Beck, Betty Dashwood and Margaret Goodbody.

In great measure the success of this campaign was due to the meticulous attention to detail and long hours of work by Paul Dilse, our heritage consultant.

Our annual conference on *Restoration of Interiors* was a tremendous success. The papers were interesting and informative. We were so pleased with the number of participants. At the conference this year we introduced a Book Fair: this aspect of the weekend was enjoyed by many attending. Commercial booksellers as well as the heritage organizations displayed material. We plan to repeat this at next year's conference in Belleville.

We are looking forward to our fund-raising dinner at the Arts and Letters Club. We are fortunate indeed to have David Crombie as our speaker. The walking

tours on Saturday and Sunday sound most interesting. I wish I could go on them all. I hope the members living outside of Toronto will bed and breakfast with members who live in Toronto. This is an advantage to everyone as it will reduce the cost of the weekend for those out of town, and add to the ACO coffers.

The ACO is a multi-faceted organization with each branch having its own focus. I enjoy the challenge of being its president.

Council News

TINY PERFECT EVENT

It seems no one can say "no" to our intrepid President, A.K. Sculthorpe. Coming off a highly successful direct mail fund-raising campaign, AK now has secured the historic Arts & Letters Club as the venue, and David Crombie, Chairman of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, as guest speaker for a fund-raising dinner to be held on Saturday, November 2nd. The number of places is limited, so check the notice in this issue of *ACORN* for further details, and order your ticket right away.

AGM & CONFERENCE '97

With a working title of "Landscape Conservation in Ontario", the 1997 AGM and Conference will be hosted by the Quinte Branch on the weekend of April 19-20, in Belleville. The committee has thought up so many topics—cultural landscapes, landscape corridors, parks and squares, master planning—that it was decided to divide the submissions into sections. See the call for papers in this issue of *ACORN*.

BUILT TO LAST

The Town Centre Video and Study Guide produced for the ACO by John Martins Manteiga and Alec Keefer are receiving their final polish ready for presentation at a series of seminars arranged in conjunction with the Ontario Historical Society to be held in Brantford, Brockville, Sault Ste. Marie, and possibly two other centres. The main intent of the Video and Study Guide is to be a teaching

aid in the schools and, to this end, 110 Superintendents and Officers at Boards of Education who specialize in curriculum and program will be approached for their support.

ERIC ARTHUR CENTENARY BOOK & SYMPOSIUM

Our longtime dream of producing a book focusing on the Eric Arthur collection of photographs of historical buildings in Ontario is coming closer to realization and, in fact, is being expanded. Since 1998 is the centenary of his birth as well as the 65th birthday of the ACO, the plan is to make Eric Arthur's life and works the theme of our 1998 conference. A number of scholars are at work on the project—biographical information has been assembled by Robert Hill, Angela Carr has embarked on a series of taped interviews, Stephen Otto has expressed his support, drawings and photos have been requested from architect Alan Shepherd, and the Market Gallery in Toronto is being approached to host an exhibition of Eric Arthur's work related to that city.

Margaret Goodbody

Annual General Meeting

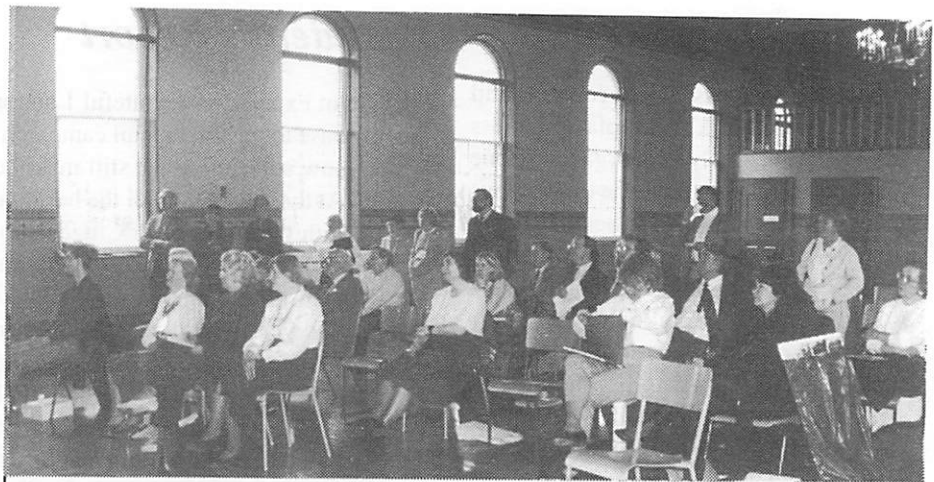
The meeting was held in the Woodstock Museum on Sunday, April 21, 1996.

Alec Keefer, president, gave a report and awarded honorary lifetime memberships to two former ACO presidents, Peter John Stokes and Mrs. Donna Baker, for their long years of service and dedication to the aims of The ACO.

Paul Dilse gave the report of the Consulting Heritage Manager and Patrick Coles, Chairman of the Advisory Board, reported on the Board's activities.

A.K. Sculthorpe, Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee reported that the fund-raising was going well.

The normal business of the annual meeting took place, such as the adoption of the minutes from the last annual general meeting, which were printed in *ACORN* and prepared by Margaret Goodbody, secretary. Julia Beck presented the report of the Nominating Committee and the



Annual Members' Meeting, Sunday, April 21, 1996, Old Woodstock Town Hall. Photo courtesy of Dan Atkinson

proposed slate of officers for the 1996-97 year. President A.K. Sculthorpe conducted the remaining part of the meeting. It was announced that the next annual general meeting and conference would be held in Belleville.

We were then treated to the premiere of "Built to Last," the ACO's video program on town centres produced by Art and Industry/20th Century Limited (John Martins Manteiga). It focused on the history and development of Brockville, Guelph, Goderich, Brantford, Pembroke, Renfrew, Owen Sound, North Bay and Woodstock. The video will soon be available through The ACO.

The morning concluded with lunch at the museum.

Marg Rowell

ACO Conference

The conference was held in Woodstock on Friday, April 19, 1996 and Saturday, April 20.

President Alec Keefer welcomed the audience and introduced Eleanor Gardhouse, Jack Hedges and other members of Heritage Oxford who, along with Provincial Council, had been working hard for months to organize the conference and annual meeting.

Space does not allow a detailed description of all the speakers' presentations, but I have chosen a few to relay to you in some detail and mention others with a brief description.

All of the speakers, their illustrative material and information were very interesting.

THE CHAMBER AT THE LEGISLATURE, QUEEN'S PARK

The theme of the conference was "Interior Stories". The first speaker was Mr. Donald Schmitt, partner in the firm of A. J. Diamond, Donald Schmitt & Company. The topic chosen by Mr. Schmitt was the firm's work on the interior of the Ontario Legislature.

The master plan for the restoration of the 1893 building (designed by architect Waite of Buffalo, N.Y.) was done by architect Julian Smith.

The exterior of the building with its slate roof and sandstone walls had been restored between 1992 and 1995. The windows had also been done at this time and Carlos Ventin, architect had been involved in this phase.

The second phase was to refurbish the interior. The east block had a wooden interior and no sprinkler system. Wheelchair accessibility and fire and life safety had to be provided.

Mr. Schmitt's firm produced 350 large detailed drawings of the interior. The drawings were used to determine where air ducts, air conditioning and power cables could be located with no disruption of the existing material. Computer models were generated to show what the re-created interior would look like. The work was made more difficult because few historic photos of the interior existed.

Mr. Schmitt's slides were excellent in illustrating the huge task of documenting the building as it is and making plans to restore the interior and also bring it up to modern standards.

The restoration is to be implemented in phases.

THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERIOR PUBLIC SPACES IN CANADIAN ARCHITECTURE

The second speaker was Mr. Brian Hunt, an associate professor at the University of Waterloo, School of Architecture. Mr. Hunt showed a number of slides to illustrate his lecture on the defining characteristics of interiors within Canadian public buildings. Large public spaces such as the Eaton Centre in Toronto, the University of Calgary student housing, B.C.E. Place, Osgoode Hall, the Bank of Montreal at Front and Yonge Streets, Toronto, and Union Station's Great Hall were shown.

Churches were also included: among them, Notre Dame Cathedral in Montreal and the historic austere interior of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (1825-1830) in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The interior of the Sharon Temple, built in 1830 by David Wilson and his congregation, was illustrated. Another group of slides depicted the Gothic Revival church interiors of St. James' and St. Michael's in Toronto and St. George's in Kingston.

RESTORATION OF ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LUCAN, ONTARIO



St. Patrick's Church, Lucan as viewed from the back. The former school is to the right. Photo courtesy of Julia Beck

Reverend Dr. J. Finn described the restoration of St. Patrick's Church in Lucan. Rev. Dr. Finn animated his talk with some good old-fashioned Irish humour.

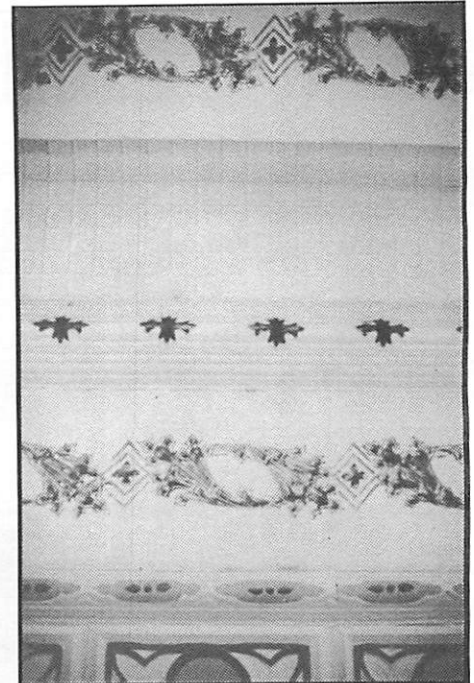
The slides used were taken by Julia and Alan Beck and illustrated the church built of white bricks that came from Elginfield and the stones for the foundation from St. Marys. The church is located two miles south of the Village of Lucan on Highway 4. It is part of a school, rectory and church complex. The rectory was built in 1869 of white brick and the one-room school belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

The interior is quite simple, consisting of a main altar and two side altars. At the rear is a choir loft which is a modern replacement for the side balconies which have been removed. The interior of the church has oak wainscoting, stained glass windows and a stencilled ceiling painted on pressed tin.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF LATE VICTORIAN DOMESTIC INTERIORS IN ONTARIO

The illustrated slide lecture was given by Mr. Fred Cane, a Conservation Officer with the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation.

Mr. Cane depicted six houses in



Details of painting on ceiling of sanctuary, St. Patrick's Church, Lucan. Photo courtesy of Julia Beck

Ontario, four of which we will mention here. The Robertson House in Toronto was built in 1873 by the owner of the Evening Telegram. There were black and white photos of the interior showing an Eastlake mantelpiece, gas lamps and steam heating apparatus.

Eldon House in London has a most interesting interior, one feature of which is an elaborate overmantel for a fireplace.

"Benvenuto," the 1891 mansion of Simeon James in Toronto, had a huge front hall with a large fireplace. The dining room was done in a medieval style.

Timothy Eaton's 1889 Queen Anne Revival style house has some medieval items in it. It also has a Moorish sitting room. Every room in the house was a theme room.

THE FEDERAL BUILDING'S CONVERSION INTO A PROVINCIAL COURTHOUSE

The talk was given by Mr. Gerald Doyle, a Manager with the Ontario Realty Corporation. The firm of NORR Partnership Limited, Architects and Engineers, Toronto, with David Jansen, design architect, were given the task of renovating and adding to the 60-year-old post office across from Gore Park in Hamilton, and turning it into a Provincial Courthouse.



Interior detail of the John Ross Robertson house on Sherbourne Street in Toronto. Photo courtesy of the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library

The property contained a 188,000 square foot designated heritage structure. The challenge was to integrate successfully the old building and new additions. The project included the addition of a seventh storey on the top and an addition on the side to add another 140,000 square feet. The new building will be set back behind the historic one.

Completion is expected in fall, 1997.

WOODSTOCK WALKING TOUR

After the lectures, we were on our own and could walk around the older core of Woodstock to see such public buildings as the firehall, jail, armoury, courthouse and market building.

I took advantage of the tour of the Oxford County Courthouse. It is a large imposing Romanesque Revival building, complete with stone carvings and gargoyles on the exterior. The interior was well-lit and some of the offices had fine wood panelling.

I also toured the Carnegie Library now under renovation and enlargement (see picture on page 19). We were fortunate to have the architect and Advisory Board member, Phillip Carter, conduct the tour of the library and the new addition to explain how the new and old space would function.

THE TORONTO-HAMILTON BUFFALO RAILWAY STATION CONVERSION TO THE HAMILTON GO TRANSIT STATION

Saturday morning began with Ross Hanham, architect in the firm of Garwood-Jones and Hanham, describing the conversion of the 1933 Art Moderne railway station. It is protected under the federal Heritage Railway Stations Protection Act. The station has been modified, its systems upgraded; while protecting, replicating, and restoring the heritage elements of the building. The new configuration includes an extensively landscaped outdoor plaza to connect to adjacent streets, and bus transit connections.

ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION HOUSES

Mr. Peter Elliott, Property Administrator at The Ontario Heritage Foundation, presented a sample of interiors from houses held in trust by The Foundation.

THE RESTORATION OF 190 BRONSON AVENUE, THE FLECK/PATERSON HOUSE AND THE WALLIS HOUSE, OTTAWA

Mr. Sandy Smallwood, president of Andrex Holdings, discussed three large houses in Ottawa that his firm had purchased and extensively renovated for office space and condominium apartment space. His firm is involved in purchasing vacant or derelict buildings and retrofitting them to become useful spaces again.

The difficulties faced in meeting modern standards of health and safety were illustrated.

CAPITOL THEATRE AND ARTS CENTRE, WINDSOR

Mr. Peter Jago gave a detailed description of the restoration of the Capitol Theatre in Windsor, built in 1920 and designed by Thomas Lamb, architect. The City of Windsor acquired the old theatre and has begun the restoration of it. The interior has been restored as far as possible with conversion from one to several small theatres, while retaining the former decorative scheme. There is cunning use of mirror and other devices to bring this about.

RESTORATION OF THE OPERA HOUSE IN THE OLD WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL

Sheila Johnson, Curator of the Woodstock Museum, showed slides of the opera house located on the second floor of the Old Woodstock Town Hall, where famous singers and actors performed during the late 1800s, at the height of its popularity. Ms Johnson's slides detailed the restoration of the opera house including its elaborate ceiling. The opera house served as the venue for our annual members' meeting the next day.

WALLPAPER RESTORATION

Florence Schroeder, curator with Victorian Collectibles of Milwaukee, which specializes in historically accurate wallpapers, spoke next. She had some fascinating samples of historical materials to share with the audience, and the questions and discussion with her continued even as we walked to the bus for the afternoon tours.

BUS TOURS

Two bus tours left about noon.

One tour was called the North Tour and went north on Highway 59 and stopped off at a golf course for a delicious lunch at an 1850s farmhouse which is now used as a clubhouse. The tour stopped at the little red brick Trinity Anglican Church, built in 1847 (see *ACORN XX* Summer-Fall 1995, middle pages). We were given a tour of the church with its simple wooden benches and altar. It is a very fine example of a pioneer church interior. They hold church service here once a year and conduct the occasional wedding. It is a credit to the local community that it is in such good repair. We continued on to Tavistock where we were fortunate to have a tour of a Queen Anne Revival style house.

The south tour visited Annedale House in Tillsonburg and sights in Ingersoll.

*Marg Rowell, with notes from
Edna Hudson*

Newsletter From England

In May, Nicholas Hill and Margaret Goodbody visited England for two weeks. The following are some of their experiences which may be of interest to ACO members.

NEW ADDITION TO VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON

"In the year 2001, this will be the most admired, reviled and argued about building in Britain," wrote the arts correspondent Jonathan Glancey in the Independent newspaper. Glancey was referring to the highly controversial design by the architect Daniel Libeskind for the new \$9.8 million addition to the venerable Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

Decried on the one side as anti-humanist, and welcomed on the other as bold and liberating, it appears as a series of tumbling boxes at different angles in a kaleidoscope of colours. The Board for the V&A, in explanation of their choice of design, said they wanted to contribute to the future. It is without doubt a huge

gesture of confidence in contemporary design, and a change from the all too common, quasi-historic designs that are usually selected for additions to historic buildings.

CONSERVING POST-WAR ART & ARCHITECTURE

The Architecture Centre of the Royal Institute of British Architects is mounting three exhibitions of post-war buildings that English Heritage are keen to see listed. The second exhibition, which opened June 1, emphasizes sculptures, memorials, places of entertainment and new towns. The 1950s and 1960s was a period of bold architectural creativity in England. Cities were rebuilt and new towns developed. Dr. Martin Cherry, Head of Listings for English Heritage, said that "by including public sculpture among our recommendations, we hope to draw these works—some of the best sculpture ever produced by English artists—to national attention." They include the Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede (Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, 1964-65) to William Reid Dick's statue of Lady Godiva in the new city centre of Coventry (1949). There are also works by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Anthony Caro. Buildings include the Aviary by Lord Snowden (1962) and the Elephant and Rhino House by Carron and Condor (1962-64) at the London Zoo.

INTERPRETIVE CENTRES BACKLASH

The big thing in heritage has been the visitors' centre. Every site had to have one. Grant-driven, the magic tag is "education." Now opposition has arisen to such centres that frequently dominate the arrival point of the site and diminish

the visitors' all-important first impression. For example, if you want to enjoy the serene beauty of the medieval Fountains Abbey and the Water Gardens in Yorkshire, don't follow the signs to the Interpretive Centre, but follow the old approach in. There is a growing opinion now to experience the fascination and beauty of historic sites first-hand. There is special value in discovering things for yourself. An idea that is receiving particular support in this regard is the "acoustic want" which a visitor can carry around and operate at will to know more about the site features. The want gets the visitor out into the real site, not sitting in front of a screen and graphic displays.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY ART CACHE DISCOVERED

It is always exciting when lost art is re-discovered. Such was the case on our visit when a post-graduate student at Pembroke College, Oxford, discovered an important collection of post-war art left to moulder in a locked basement room for almost two decades. Thought to be worth close to \$2.5 million, it includes works by Clough, Chadwick, Pasmore, Heron, Frink and Piper. The works had been acquired between 1947 and 1965, using a fund toward which Pembroke undergraduates contributed approximately \$1 a term to encourage young British artists and to furnish students' rooms. In 1954, the student body acquired a Francis Bacon oil painting for \$350 and was censured for wasting money! The same work now hangs in the Ashmolean Museum and is valued at over \$1 million. Ironically, it seems the collection ended up in the basement after the paintings were judged to be too valuable to hang in students' rooms. The collection is now being restored and displayed.

The First Six Advisory Board Reports of 1996

- Herkimer Apartments, Hamilton - Anthony Butler
- Central Hotel, Lucan - Patrick Coles
- Park Baptist Church, Brantford - Patrick Coles & Paul Dilse
- Wallace Avenue Footbridge, Toronto - Eric Jokinen & Heather Hedderson
- Wood-Simpson House, Blanshard Twp. - Denis Héroux
- St. Paul's Church, Perrytown - Alan Zeegen

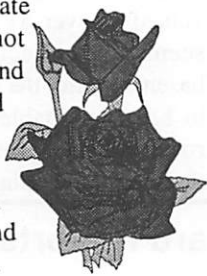
COTTESBROOKE HALL— AN 18TH CENTURY COUNTRY HOUSE

There are numerous historic homes to visit in England, many of them privately owned. Such is the case of Cottesbrooke Hall in Northamptonshire, which we visited, and attributed by some as the pattern for Jane Austen's "Mansfield Park."

Built in 1702 of rose-coloured brick with local stone detailing, it has remained essentially the same since that time. The plan includes a central block containing the principal rooms with two wings connected by blank quadrant walls serving as arcades. The glory of Cottesbrooke is the 18th century landscape of parkland, vistas and lakes. However, this is not just a landscape of the past but one that is being added to today. The formal garden to the house with low, parapet walls and wrought iron gates was developed during the 1930s by landscape architect Sir Geoffery Jellicoe. In 1982, a new lime avenue was planted extending from the house for some two miles. The Edwardian rose garden was designed by Edward Schulz. Most recent is the creation of the wild garden. Cottesbrooke Hall is one of a number of country houses still in private hands where the tradition of embellishing the landscape for future generations continues.

SOME RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS

What makes England a gardener's paradise? The temperate climate—never too hot or too cold. Blossom and flowers thus last and last. The most popular plant? It must be the rose, found in the finest and the humblest gardens.



England must have the very best and the very worst of newspapers. Of the best, which we believe include the Guardian, Independent and Times, coverage of heritage, culture and the arts is varied and extensive. These subjects are frequently on the front page with photography in colour too! Equally refreshing was the extensive use of lay reporters—not the



The Cyrus Mapes House on its original site. Insul-brick and years of neglect masked the significance of this virtually intact example of a mid-19th century tradesman's cottage. Photo courtesy of Richmond Hill LACAC

same old opinions by the same reporters day in day out found in our national newspaper.

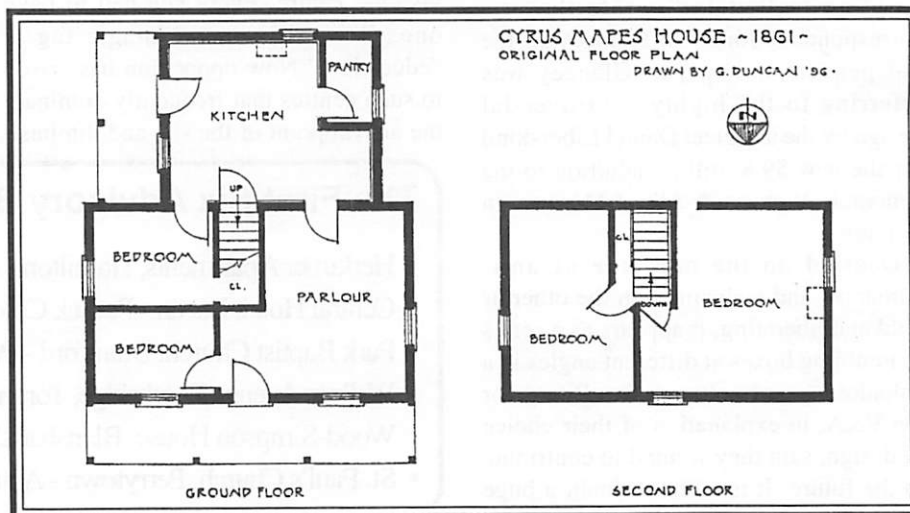
Coming Millennium celebrations are being planned for. A lot of funding is coming from the phenomenally successful new lottery in England called Camelot. It is now the world's richest lottery, with an annual revenue of over \$12 billion. A percentage of the revenue has to be put towards "worthy projects" such as culture and the arts, rather like our former Wintario.

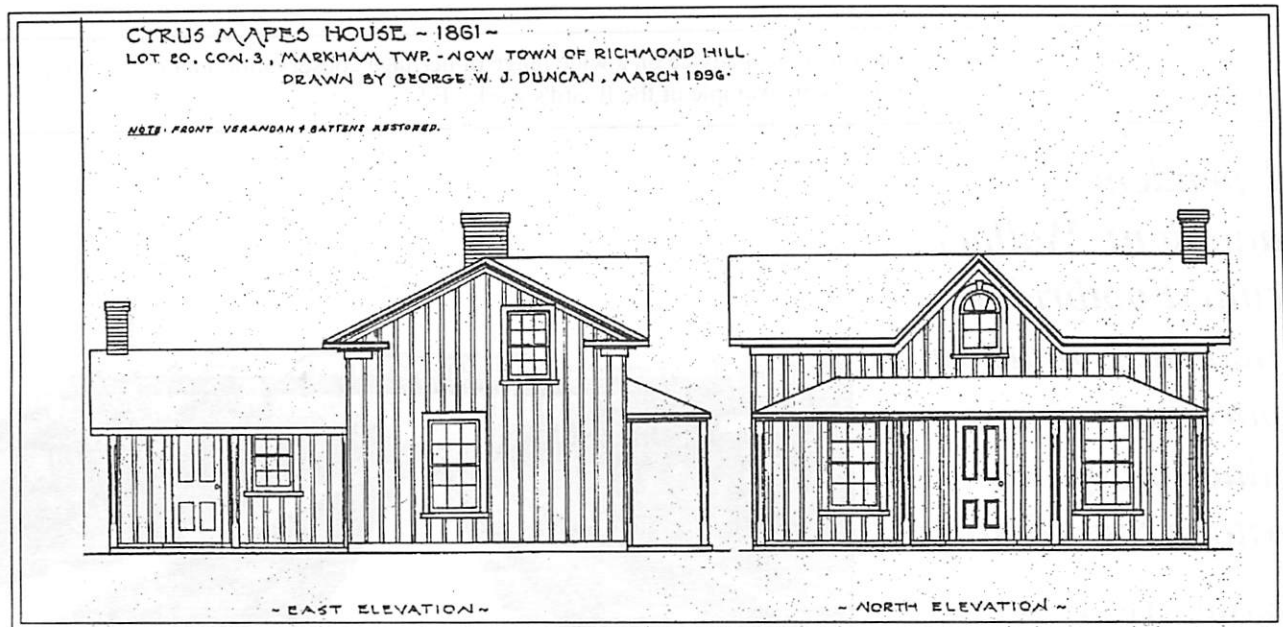
*Nicholas Hill
Margaret Goodbody*

Richmond Hill Cabinet- Maker's 1861 House to be Preserved

In 1860, Cyrus Mapes built a cabinet-maker's shop on a quarter acre of land purchased from John C. Burr, the owner of the Old Mill Farm at Headford, a crossroads community in Markham Township. Headford is now a part of the Town of Richmond Hill due to boundary changes brought about by the creation of York Region in 1971.

During the summer of 1861, Mapes built a modest board-and-batten clad frame house at the edge of the Headford mill pond, adjoining his place of business.





Here, he and his wife, Harriet, raised a family of eight children. The shop disappeared long ago, but its location was recorded on Tremaine's Map of York County, dated 1860.

The house is a virtually intact example of a mid-19th century tradesman's cottage. Although the scale of the structure is small, architectural details such as the deep eaves returns and large six-over-six ground floor windows are of a size more appropriate for a much more substantial building. This oddity of design has inspired some people to remark that the dwelling has the appearance of a "doll's house". The centre gable is original, but the round-headed window appears to be a later addition.

Cyrus Mapes was a man of many trades, primarily a carpenter and cabinetmaker, but also a beekeeper, cider mill operator, and proprietor of an apple butter works. Several pieces of furniture, possibly attributed to Mapes and found in the house, remain in the possession of his descendants.

The house was willed to daughters Sarah L. Mapes and Harriet (Hattie) Mapes. For many years, Sarah returned to Headford to spend the summer in her childhood home; then in 1936 sold the property to her niece, Beatrice Stephenson. Beatrice and her husband, Vic, lived here until 1945, at which time the house was sold and went out of the ownership of Cyrus Mapes' descendants.

After being rented for a series of years, the house was in need of some repair and finally left vacant, awaiting an uncertain fate. Joyce Horner, a member of one of the community's longest-established families, became interested in the idea of

preserving the old Mapes House by relocating it to her family's neighbouring farm. At one time, Joyce's maternal grandparents had rented the little insul-brick clad house.

This spring, the Cyrus Mapes House will become a wing of the Horner's existing home at 9920 Leslie Street. Also on the property is the Jacob Horner House, built about 1860, and recently designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The former Mapes House will continue to overlook the site of the Headford mill pond, and will be restored to its early appearance, complete with board-and-batten siding, verandahs, and original windows.

During the preparation of the house for the move, Mr. Bruce Vander Bent, the project contractor, retained numerous plaster samples that provide valuable information on original interior paint colours. The range of colours uncovered includes washes in yellow ochre, lemon yellow, terra cotta, and plum. Also found during the stripping of the interior was an

unpainted pine disk, 3/8 of an inch thick and one foot in diameter, hidden behind the upstairs ceiling. This disk is hand-carved with a design the resembles a traditional Pennsylvania German "hex sign".

The disk is a locally significant example of 19th century folk art. Its origins are puzzling because Cyrus Mapes did not have a Pennsylvania German background, but his occupation as a carpenter and cabinetmaker seem to point to him as the creator of this intriguing and beautiful object. The original purpose and location of the disk are also a mystery. One side is weathered, suggesting it was outdoors for some time, perhaps functioning as a ventilator for an outbuilding or barn.

Finally, why was the disk hidden in the ceiling of the house? Did the person who placed it there consider it a good luck charm, similar to the shoes that seem to turn up in the wall cavities of some old Ontario houses?

George W. J. Duncan

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The Advisory Board provides preliminary technical advice on a wide range of heritage conservation matters. The report on the Wallace Avenue Footbridge in Toronto is an example of the Board's work - Ed.

Independent Evaluation: Wallace Avenue Footbridge Structural Condition Report and Evaluation of Heritage Significance

INTRODUCTION

This Advisory Board report is made in response to a request by the West Toronto Junction Historical Society for an analysis of the structural condition of the Wallace Avenue Footbridge in Toronto as well as a determination of the bridge's heritage significance.

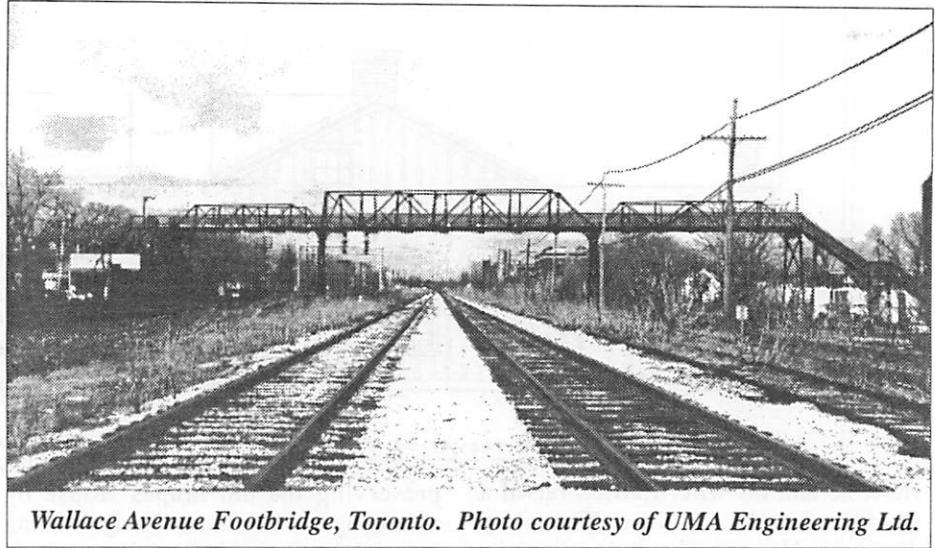
The site was visited by Heather Hedderson and Eric Jokinen, P.Eng. of UMA Engineering, accompanied by Diana Fancher and Frances Labelle of the West Toronto Junction Historical Society, on April 9, 1996.

Diana Fancher conducted historical research and wrote the historical description. David Cuming, author of *Discovering Heritage Bridges on Ontario's Roads*, provided the evaluation of heritage significance. Alec Keefer, Ian Wheal and staff of both the City of Toronto Archives and the Public Works Department helped with research.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The Wallace Avenue Footbridge, a steel-truss overhead pedestrian bridge with stairs at either end, was designed and built in 1907 by the Ontario Bridge Company. The City of Toronto's Works Department, under the direction of City Engineer C.H. Rust, designed the footings. The bridge connected Wallace Avenue on the east to Dundas Street near Glenlake Avenue on the west by spanning the CPR-Grand Trunk (now CNR) rail corridor.

The unusual features of the bridge result partially from unusual site-specific circumstances. The railways insisted on



Wallace Avenue Footbridge, Toronto. Photo courtesy of UMA Engineering Ltd.

a steel bridge. The City's intent was to provide low-cost, safe, "temporary" access to paved roads and streetcar lines for residents of the Wallace Avenue area, who were surrounded on all sides by level crossings. Eventually, the City planned to build large-scale underpasses at Dupont and Bloor Street which, it was assumed, would make the footbridge redundant. However, local industrial development and journey-to-work patterns meant that the footbridge continued to be used.

The Wallace Avenue Footbridge is the first recorded project of the Ontario Bridge Company which was active from 1907 to 1958. Its chief engineer in 1907 was 23-year-old Frazer Matthews, who went on to become president and general manager of the company as well as vice-president of Disher Steel Construction Company before his death in 1954 at age 70.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

USE OF STEEL

Steel began to be used in bridge construction from 1885 onwards, replacing timber and wrought iron as the favoured construction material. This pedestrian bridge is presumably a fairly early example of steel construction (if one assumes steel has been used for over 110 years in Ontario).

USE OF RIVETTING

Early metal bridges were often bolted together and relied on pin connections for their assembly. Late nineteenth century field riveting techniques were primitive and there was seldom any guarantee of quality control. At the turn of the twentieth century portable pneumatic tools revolutionized field riveting permitting consistency and hence securely riveted spans. This span could also be considered as an early example of riveting.

RARITY OF PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES

Pedestrian access across rail lines is usually achieved either at grade (street level), below grade (underpass) or above grade (usually associated with a road bridge). Purpose-built pedestrian bridges, and this is somewhat conjectural not knowing the precise numbers, are probably rather rare. These spans would certainly appear to be an early example of a rare type of structure.

For these reasons, the Wallace Avenue Footbridge is worthy of designation and protection under the Ontario Heritage Act.

INVESTIGATION PROCESS

The structural investigation involved the comparison of the existing structure with the available drawings, as well as a

CALL FOR PAPERS

Landscape Conservation in Ontario

**A conference to be held at Belleville
April 19 and 20, 1997**

Please send a three-sentence summary of the proposed topic to:

Conference '97
Suite 204, 10 Adelaide Street East,
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We welcome submissions that focus on:

Indigenous and Traditionally Planted Species
Squares and Parks
The Landscape Master Plan
Gardens
Cemeteries
Arboretums
Corridors and Views
Cultural Landscapes - Rural and Urban

visual and photographic survey of the existing condition of the bridge structure.

STRUCTURAL EVALUATION

The Wallace Avenue Bridge appears to be in need of some repair but is otherwise in sound condition.

Repairs of the bridge have taken place over the years. From the drawings the first record of major repairs occurred in 1951 at which time most of the cross-bracing under the bridge deck and the east and north stair stringers were replaced. Further repairs were carried out in 1965 when the stringers on the south stairs on Dundas Street were replaced. As well, a number of riveted plates have been replaced with welded plates in the supporting structures.

The main concern is with corrosion of some of the structural members and connections. The weakened steel sections should be replaced using the original construction techniques wherever possible. The remaining structure should

be cleaned of corrosion products and repainted. The foundations and stair stringers at the west end of the bridge, as well as the stair stringers at the east end, have been embedded in the ground. This creates an environment where corrosion of the steel structure can occur. These areas should be cleared of soil and provided with protective barriers.

There has not been any movement in the foundations; however, the foundation piers are showing signs of stress most likely due to the corrosion of the anchor bolts embedded in the concrete. The upper portion of the piers should be replaced along with the anchor bolt connections.

It is our understanding that the wooden bridge deck was replaced approximately 30 years ago which would indicate that it is probably reaching the end of its service life. Signs of deterioration of the wooden structure also indicate that it should be replaced.

In order to preserve the existing structure for continued use we would

recommend the following repairs to be made:

1. Replacement of weakened structural steel members using original methods wherever possible, i.e. rivets.
2. Cleaning and repair of surface corrosion on structural steel members.
3. Replacement of wooden deck.
4. Repair of foundations.
5. Providing drainage away from foundation piers - excavation of built up soil and the installation of protective barriers.
6. Rewiring of lighting fixtures.

SUMMARY AND COSTING ASSUMPTIONS

There are a number of deficiencies present in the bridge, as described above, but it is our belief that it is safe for continued use over the short term. Repairing the Wallace Avenue Footbridge provides an economical means to maintaining access to Dundas St. W. from Wallace Avenue. It should be noted that the present deficiencies will increase in severity over time and therefore should be repaired as soon as possible.

The cost estimates found appended to this report are preliminary only. Construction budgets can only be prepared when investigations are complete and detailed designs of remedial work have been prepared.

Budgets are based on the current construction market and second quarter 1996 dollars. No financing or inflation allowances have been added.

Indirect costs for project management, contractor's overhead and profit, site overhead, permits, professional design and review fees and a normal contingency are included. We have used an allowance of 30% for these costs.

No contingency has been added for latent defects which have not yet been identified but could come to light during subsequent investigations and remedial work.

*Heather Hedderson, M.Sc.Eng. and
Eric Jokinen, P.Eng.*

Branch Reports

PORT HOPE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
FEBRUARY 17, 1996

Terry Foord opened the meeting and the minutes were read by Ylva Norvell. Don Rungay presented the financial report for 1995. He stated that office rental expense will no longer be on the statements as the branch now meets in the Archives building.

The president thanked outgoing members of the board, Anita Blackwood, Marion Gellatly, Dean Howlett, Eileen Holton, Catharine Ramsey and Audrey Simpson.

A.K. Sculthorpe, Dean Ramsey and Terry Foord attended the Provincial Council meeting as Port Hope representatives.

The president mentioned the successful garden tour on July 8, the walking tour and the successful house tour. Other events were the Christmas party at the Butternut Inn and Daphne Svenningsson's lecture on New Zealand. Mr. Foord reported that the major project is the Capitol Theatre to which The ACO has contributed \$75,000. Other projects include the Farini Park and the Walking Tour booklets.

The float for the Christmas parade was created by Jack Loughheed.

Chris Borgal, one of the architects currently involved in the restoration of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, spoke of his work and presented slides.

At the meeting on February 20, Terry Foord presented the year's Heritage Award to David Watson for renovations to his storefront on Walton Street.

This year's president is Darrell Leeson, and the new slate of officers is:

Past President	Terry Foord
Secretary	Ylva Norvell
Treasurer	Don Rungay
Directors:	Janet Roberts
	Sue Stickley
	Joanne da Costa
	Nancy Fair
	Bob Harrison
	Jack Loughheed
	Chris Montgomery
	Bonnie Walker
Advisors:	Marion Garland
	A. K. Sculthorpe

President Darrell Leeson presented outgoing president Terry Foord with a bird's eye view map of Port Hope.

PORT HOPE NEWS

The fate of the St. Lawrence Block on Walton Street in Port Hope has caused considerable concern among many Port Hoppers. A Toronto company recently presented plans to the Town to renovate the block into a 60-unit seniors' complex, including an addition on the rear of the building. Members of The ACO Port Hope branch were concerned with the plans to eliminate all of the street-level retail stores except one. However, the owner has stated that any plans are in abeyance for the present.

The Toronto Dominion Bank planned a new three-foot wide redesigned entrance on Ontario Street using a part of Town property. The bank also proposed to close off its Walton Street entrance. LACAC and The ACO are opposing this move.

In the Canada Day parade, Port Hope Branch was represented by two members in an antique car.

The cupola on the Town Hall clock tower is to be restored next spring.

A most successful barbecue was held at Penryn Park on June 27. The weather cooperated, there were no mosquitoes, and new members joined. Peter and Ann Stokes were two of the out-of-town members in attendance.

On Thursday evening, December 5, there will be our usual Christmas gathering at the Butternut Inn on North Street, the home of Bob and Bonnie Harrison.

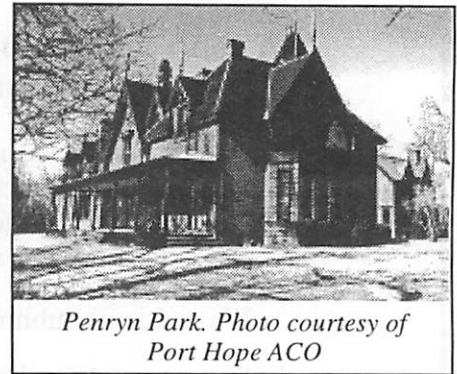
The Port Hope Branch has donated \$15,000 to cover the shortfall in funding required to complete the restoration of the historic interior decoration of the Capitol Theatre. This theatre was one of the first designed and built expressly to show talking movies, but also to achieve a world of make-believe through the projection of special effects (moving clouds) on the ceiling. This donation brings The ACO's total commitment to the theatre to \$96,000.

THE PORT HOPE ANNUAL HOUSE TOUR

The Port Hope Branch of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario will hold its ANNUAL HOUSE TOUR on Saturday, October 5, 1996 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This year's tour will

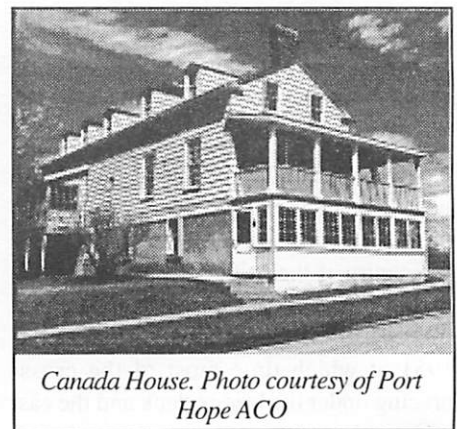
feature eight houses from the town's extensive legacy of 19th century architecture, as well as the Town Hall and Dr. Hawkins Public School which is celebrating its centenary this year.

Among the homes on tour are Penryn Park and Canada House:



Penryn Park. Photo courtesy of Port Hope ACO

Built in 1859 and designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, Penryn Park is an excellent example of "Cottage Gothic" architecture. This imposing mansion is characterized by abundant detail in its steep gables, bargeboard trim, pointed arches and imposing tower. Inside, the grand ornate staircase, plaster cornices and medallions, together with the ground floor mantelpieces are typical interior details of Gothic design.



Canada House. Photo courtesy of Port Hope ACO

Canada House, believed to be the oldest house in Port Hope is a puzzling yet fascinating building. Built into a slope at harbourside, the long low house is two and a half storied on its west side. Its history of uses includes an inn, a boarding school for girls and a bakery. Canada House has also been immortalized in Jane Urquhart's book, *AWAY*. The gabled roof, pedimented dormers, staircase, galleried verandah and front entrance are some of the many details to look for. The present owners are immersed in the restoration of this heritage home.

Once again coffee will be served in the morning and tea in the afternoon at St. Mark's Anglican Church on King Street. Lunch will be available at St. John's Anglican Church on Pine Street, North.

Proceeds from the house tour will be used to support continued restoration of both private houses and public buildings. Port Hope Branch is currently assisting in the restoration of the Capitol Theatre as well as the development of the Ganaraska Archives.

THE ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

This year a wide selection of gardens were on display. The gardens shown were those of Fred and Olive Kelly, Don and Joan Rumgay, Ian and Eleanor Campbell, Selwyn and Anne Shields, Ruth Beaucage, Kathryn McHolm, Bob and A.K. Sculthorpe, and Paul and Evelyn Bridges.

TREES

A heritage group in Port Hope is urging Council to see trees as part of the unique character of the town. A letter from the board of directors of the Port Hope Branch of The ACO received at Town Hall urges councillors to maintain an active tree committee to preserve and protect the natural beauty of the town. In the letter, the local branch notes the 19th century streetscape of Port Hope is enhanced by the number of mature trees. It also notes trees have been removed over the past year without being replaced.

Marion Garland

WINDSOR

Work on both the town hall and the Walkerville Heritage Conservation District Study are progressing well. WACAC expects to present the study to City Council early this fall. We have commissioned a photographic record of the study area for future use. Black and white prints and colour slides will be produced and a copy will be provided to WACAC. Windsor ACO will retain possession of all negatives.

We have been asked to comment on the heritage component of a Class Environmental Assessment Report on the proposed reconstruction of Riverside Drive East (from Strabane to St. Rose). Paul Dilse has been very helpful in obtaining information for us and suggesting some solutions. At this point in time, we feel that the heritage component of the report is flawed.

The Ursuline convent, "Glengarda," on Riverside Drive has recently been listed for sale. Several individuals and organizations have asked for our assistance in finding a solution that will prevent demolition and replacement with yet another condo along this stretch. The convent is on the list of Windsor Heritage Properties; however, it has never been designated. I will be touring the property and meeting with the chair of the Pilette Village BIA, who is very interested in finding an alternative to demolition of this landmark.

Pat Malicki

Port Hope Annual House Tour

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1996

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This event features houses from the town's extensive
19th century architecture

Admission \$15.00

Tickets are limited

Order early



Town Hall circa 1851

Tickets available in Port Hope at:

Acanthus Interiors, 25 John Street
Chatwood & Simmons, 56 Walton Street
Lord Russborough's Annex, 82 Walton Street
Furby House Books, 64 Walton Street

Tickets available in Cobourg at:

The Cobourg Print Gallery, 8 King Street

or by writing to:

Port Hope ACO, P.O. Box 563, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3Z4

Please add \$1.00 shipping and handling for 5 tickets or less,
more than 5 tickets add \$2.00

For further information

Please call 905-885-6960 or 1-905-885-5790

(Not Refundable after September 17, 1996)

Sponsored by the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

HAMILTON REGION

One in a series of tours organized by the Hamilton Region Branch to celebrate Hamilton's sesquicentennial, "Historic Landscapes" explored aspects of the City Beautiful movement in three sites—two public and one private. Tour guides for the August 18 bus and walking tour included: Ann Milovsoroff, landscape architect with the Royal Botanical Gardens; Ken Coit, intern architect; Megan Hobson, PhD candidate in architectural history; and, Ann Gillespie in the City of Hamilton planning department.

Two tour stops—the northwestern part of the Royal Botanical Gardens and the High Level Bridge—illustrated the late 1920s scheme for a grand entrance to Hamilton. The bridge, providing a panoramic view of Cootes Paradise and Hamilton Harbour, connected the rock garden in the west to York Boulevard in the east. The rock garden, built on a gravel quarry, was designed by landscape architect, Carl Borgstrom. He had won in a nation-wide competition. The third-prize winner in the competition, architect John Lyle, designed the bridge. The Classical Moderne bridge incorporated four statuary niches in its Queenston limestone pylons. They were to contain likenesses of the four most important personages in Hamilton's history, but as City Council could not decide who they should be, they remain empty to this day! The bridge was restored in 1987 with Ministry assistance.

T.B. McQuesten, whose family home, "Whitehern," is now a Hamilton museum, orchestrated both the construction of the grand entrance and an earlier project at the Gage property—the next stop on the tour. McQuesten had eyed the narrow 64-acre property on Hamilton's eastern flank as a green space between pre-First World War development and lands farther east along the Hamilton to Niagara highway. Howard Dunnington Grubb, landscape architect, designed formal gardens in Gage Park while John Lyle, working on a small commission from Eugenia Gage, designed the park's central fountain. The Neoclassical fountain in Indiana limestone, set at the head of an axial canal, visually forces the escarpment in distant view into the park. Unfortunately, over time the fountain shaft has been truncated, the stone painted, and a bronze turtle designed by sculptor Florence Wyle stolen. Hamilton Branch intends to spearhead a campaign for the restoration of the fountain.

After the two public projects, the tour continued to the St. Clair Boulevard heritage conservation district. The 1911 private housing survey contains a street with a central boulevard and a curvilinear street, features influenced by the City Beautiful movement.

The success of this and other tours in the series has led Hamilton Branch to offer a program of architectural tours in 1997.

Paul Dilse

HERITAGE OXFORD

We had the opportunity to take a short break after the busy times preparing the annual ACO conference here in Oxford County. It was a great experience and from the feedback we have received from participants, it would appear the program was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank The ACO Executive for their indispensable guidance, the speakers for their stimulating presentations, and, of course, the membership and public who attended and supported the event.

Our next immediate task will be to oppose a challenge to the preservation of the "Historical District" Zone in Woodstock. City Council some years ago had the vision to zone an older section of the city in order to protect the area's historical and architectural significance. The centre of this area is Victoria Park and it is surrounded by a beautiful variety of 19th and early 20th century homes and public buildings. The neighbourhood has a certain uniqueness in that both private owners and the municipality have maintained their properties to a high standard. The zoning status of the area has protected property owners from averse development. This security has now been threatened.

The proposal would require a zoning change to permit the amalgamation of two houses and their properties for an institutional use. The size and style of the new building, in our opinion, would significantly alter the character of the immediate neighbourhood and thus run counter to the purpose of the historical district zone.

There is considerable evidence that in stable neighbourhoods commercial and institutional uses do not mix well with residential. When neighbourhoods combine such different functions it is usually the residential that loses. Families move out to avoid the changes brought about by development. This particular neighbourhood is very near the

commercial centre and thus vulnerable to piecemeal development. Thus the special zoning in the first place.

It is our position that a large institutional development does not fit into the style, scale, and usage of a significantly historical single-family neighbourhood.

Jack Hedges

QUINTE REGION

Our Branch was saddened again to learn of the death of Mary Greig, widow of Rodger Greig. Mary died in June. We have many happy memories of both Mary and Rodger and we miss their knowledge and support.

Our walking tours, held on the third Sunday of every month except December, continue to be well-received. Doug Parker took a large group on a driving/walking tour of Cherry Valley, starting with some of the pioneer homes near the village and ending with a walk along the main street. About 60 people enjoyed the fine July weather and Doug's informative tour.

August saw another beautiful day bring out about the same number of interested people to tour Newburgh with Betty Salisbury. The village is a treasure trove of fascinating buildings and two hours only allowed us to cover a portion of them. As with so many of our tours, a return visit would make an enjoyable outing on your own, using Betty's handout as a guide.

The Branch Executive appreciates the help of all the members who volunteered to research and prepare a tour this year. It really makes it easier to share the work.

Our tours for the rest of 1996 are scheduled for King Street in Picton, September 15, Concession 3, Stirling to Moira (locally known as the Ridge Road) October 20, and on November 17 we will visit Brighton.

The congregation of the Picton United Church has decided to proceed with restoration of the church's crenellated Norman tower which houses the town clock. Work started in mid-June and is expected to be completed by late September. To date \$72,000 has been raised locally of the required \$235,000 to complete the project. The congregation is in need of additional funding—anyone interested in contributing to this worthwhile restoration can contact the Quinte Branch for more details.

Dan Atkinson

FUND-RAISING DINNER

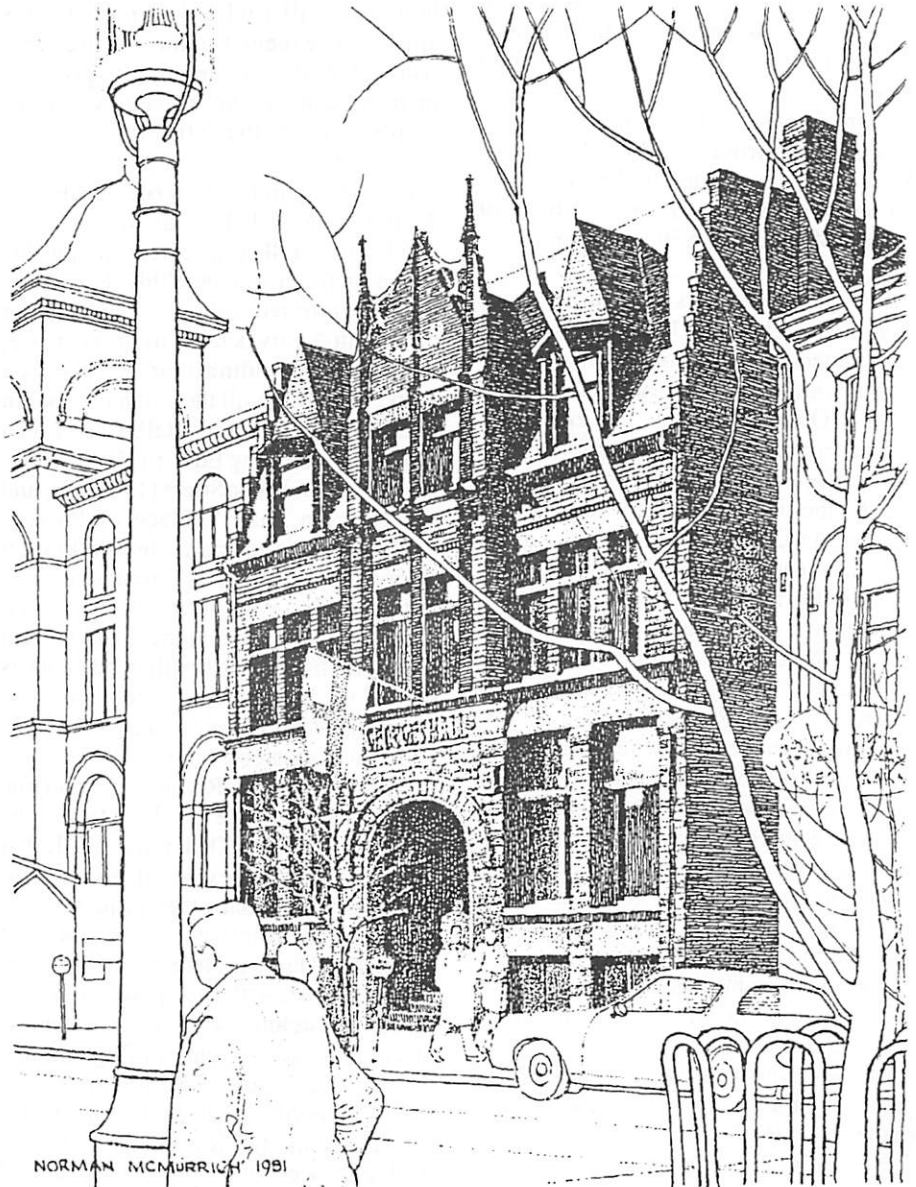
- When:** Saturday, November 2, 1996, 6:30 p.m.
- Where:** The Arts & Letters Club, 14 Elm Street (between Yonge & Bay).
- Why:** This event is one of a series of initiatives aimed at putting The ACO on a sound financial footing without undue dependence on government grants.
- What:** The event will include dinner, guest speaker and a silent auction.
- Who:** David Crombie, Chairman of The Waterfront Regeneration Trust, will be guest speaker.

How: Tickets may be obtained from your local ACO Branch Executive or by calling Margaret Goodbody at (519) 837-8082.

Architectural tours are also being offered in conjunction with the event. Call Margaret at (519) 837-8082 to reserve.

Extras: The ACO is organizing bed and breakfast accommodations for a limited number of guests as a further fund-raiser.

The Bottom Line: Tickets are limited to 115 places and will cost \$60 per person with a \$30 tax receipt.



ARTS & LETTERS CLUB

A free tour is included in the purchase price of the ticket. If unable to attend the dinner, you may join the tours by paying \$10.00.

Bed and breakfast accommodation with a TRAC member is \$30 per person.

What Else: If you have any brilliant ideas for silent auction goods or services please call Margaret at (519) 837-8082 right away!

Book Reviews

THREE TORONTO ARCHITECTS GET THEIR DUE

Toronto Architect Edmund Burke: Redefining Canadian Architecture. By Angela Carr. McGill-Queen's University Press, 1995. 233 pages. \$44.95 cloth.

Edward James Lennox: "Builder of Toronto". By Marilyn Litvak. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1995. 118 pages. \$19.99 paper.

William Thomas, Architect, 1799-1860. By Glenn McArthur and Annie Szamosi. Archives of Canadian Art, An Imprint of Carleton University Press, 1996. 149 pages. \$59.95 cloth; \$39.95 paper.

One hundred years ago in Toronto, prominent architect E.J. Lennox was still busy supervising the construction of the monumental Old City Hall (1887-99). Across Queen Street at the corner of Yonge, Edmund Burke had completed the year before the Robert Simpson Store (1895), the first steel frame, curtain-wall building in Canada. A few blocks away but fifty years earlier, William Thomas, one of the founders of the Canadian architectural profession, was hard at work on St. Michael's Roman Catholic Cathedral (1845-48), Toronto's first "correct" Gothic Revival structure.

Each of these renowned Canadian architects, responsible for many of our great Victorian and Edwardian landmarks, now has a splendid book devoted to him and his work. While very different from one another, all these books succeed in communicating their authors' zeal and admiration for their subject.

The most ambitious and scholarly of these is Angela Carr's treatment of Edmund Burke. Born in Toronto in 1850, Burke enjoyed a thriving architectural practice in the emerging metropolis from the 1870s to the First World War. As Carr ably demonstrates, this was an exciting, transitional period in Canadian architecture, when predominantly English styles and technology were increasingly being supplanted by American influences (the design for the Simpson's store, for example, owed much to Chicago precedents). It was also a time when the practice of architecture itself was experiencing major growing pains - these were to transform the architect from a kind of glorified craftsman into the consulting

professional of today.

As well as the milestone Simpson's store, well-known Burke designs include McMaster Hall on Bloor Street, now the Royal Conservatory of Music (1900-2), Jarvis Street Baptist Church (1874-75) and the Bloor Street Viaduct across the Don Valley (1915-17). Carr's research on these and other projects is impressive and her writing is exhaustive in the best art historical tradition. The conservationist, however, will find a drawback to this approach: except for the too frequent "(demolished)," we are usually given no information on the current status or condition of the structures being discussed.

A contemporary of Burke and fellow Torontonians, E.J. Lennox was born in 1854. Over a 40-year career, he put his stamp on the city so indelibly that a 1933 obituary referred to him as the "Builder of Toronto". Litvak takes us on a concise, building-by-building tour of Lennox's work. She covers all the "high points," in both senses - Old City Hall, Casa Loma (1909-13), the King Edward Hotel (1900-2), St. Paul's, Bloor Street (1909-13), and the Niagara Falls "Palace of Power" (1904-12) - and many lesser known designs as well. For a Torontonian, one of the delights of the book is the discovery, thanks to all of the historical and current photographs, that a familiar building is part of the Lennox opus, and, somehow, has managed to survive to the present day.

Litvak discusses Lennox's obvious debt to Henry Hobson Richardson and the Romanesque Revival style he championed (in Old City Hall, for instance), but her text is otherwise short on the stylistic and other influences on Lennox, and his influence in turn on later architects. This is in sharp contrast to both Carr's and McArthur's approach, which places the architect's work in the context of contemporary events in England and the United States. The advantage of Litvak's brevity, "tour-guide"-like focus, and handsome but less imposing format is a highly accessible book that will appeal to many.

A couple of generations before Lennox and Burke, in 1799, William Thomas was born in Suffolk, England. From his arrival in Toronto, Canada West, in 1843 until his death in 1860, he operated what became British North America's largest architectural practice. During his lifetime Thomas was chiefly known for his Gothic Revival churches, such as St. Michael's Cathedral, St. Paul's Church, Hamilton

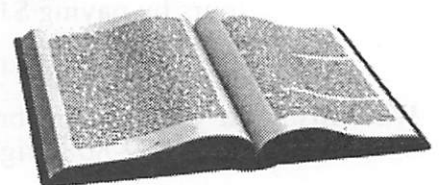
(1854), and St. Paul's, London (1844). Today, however, he is best remembered for his public buildings: some of the better known are Toronto's St. Lawrence Hall (1845-50), the Guelph Town Hall (1856), the Kent District Courthouse in Chatham (1846-47) and, his last work, the Don Jail in Toronto (1857-64).

McArthur and Szamosi have done Thomas proud with a beautifully designed and printed book which includes a wealth of high-quality photographs and illustrations. The research is thorough and the writing vividly portrays the practice of architecture in Canada in the middle of the last century, when the dominant influences were still very much English.

One of the fascinating parts of this book is the story of the Brock Monument on Queenston Heights, designed by Thomas in 1852 to replace the first monument blown up by an 1837 rebel. Thanks to a short history of monument design in Canada and elsewhere to that time, we soon understand the influences that led to the choice of a giant column rather than an obelisk to commemorate the slain hero (a principal factor was that an obelisk design was considered too American, having recently been adopted for the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.).

Inevitably, in all of these books, we are struck by the many interesting structures lost to us, usually as the result of the depredations of the 20th century. But the appearance of these publications within the space of a year, and the promise of more to follow (rumour has it the second in the Dundurn series will feature Montreal Moderne architect Ernest Cormier), cannot help but be encouraging - could it be that Canadian architectural history is finally coming into its own? In any case books like these help us better appreciate what architectural riches remain and make a little more likely their preservation in the new century.

Dan Schneider is an advisor on heritage legislation and policy with the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. He divides his time between Toronto and an old farmhouse near St. Marys.



1996 Workshop

Each year, The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario offers a nonprofit workshop on a technical aspect of architectural conservation for volunteer practitioners and front-line municipal employees. In 1996, the topic is *Documentation at Every Stage of a Heritage Conservation Project*.

Documentation at Every Stage outlines the steps to follow in a building conservation project — from the initial visual survey to post-project monitoring. We illuminate sometimes-confusing terms such as “as-found recording” or “conservation plan”, and uncover some of the mysteries of historical research.

The instructors for the half-day session are Paul Dilse, Su Murdoch and Denis Héroux — all members of the Advisory Board of The ACO. Paul Dilse, consulting heritage manager for the organization, has a background in heritage planning and in adult education. Archivist and historian, Su Murdoch, has written several publications, including *Looking Both Ways: A Resource Kit for the Study of Built Heritage in Simcoe County*. Denis Héroux, architectural conservation technologist at The Ontario Heritage Foundation, administers projects involving as-found-recording, conditions assessment and construction drawings.

Your registration for *Documentation at Every Stage of a Heritage Conservation Project* includes a pre-workshop needs assessment, instruction, case study material, refreshments and a take-home study kit. Enrollment is limited to 15 students.

Don't miss *Documentation at Every Stage*. Those who attended the 1995 workshop, *Using Ontario Legislation Effectively for Heritage Conservation*, gave us top marks!

Registration

Documentation at Every Stage of a Heritage Conservation Project

Saturday, November 16, 1996, 1:00-6:00 p.m.

Ontario Heritage Centre, 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto

Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ (day) _____ (evening) _____ (fax)

Workshop @ \$74.00 per person (GST not charged) x ____ = Total \$ _____

Please make your cheque payable to “The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario” and mail to:

Paul Dilse, Consulting Heritage Manager
The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
Suite 929, 85 Bleecker Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4X 1X1

We will send a letter of confirmation. For more information, please call
(416) 921-5324.

Community Heritage Ontario, A Profile

[The following article is in exchange for an October 1995 CHO News article on the programs of The ACO-Ed.]

As most readers of *ACORN* are aware, Community Heritage Ontario (CHO) is the province-wide organization of Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees (LACACs).

LACACs are appointed by municipal councils under the Ontario Heritage Act to advise the council on all matters relating to Parts IV and V of the Ontario Heritage Act. (Such matters include the designation of individual properties and heritage conservation districts, the entering into of heritage easement agreements, and the processing of applications to alter or demolish designated properties).

There are two types of CHO membership, voting and non-voting.

Voting membership is open to municipally appointed heritage advisory committees (LACACs). Despite reduced municipal budgets, over 115 LACACs (well in excess of 50% of the LACACs currently existing in Ontario) had paid their membership fees as voting-member organizations by mid-year, and additional renewals were still coming in.

Non-voting supporting membership is open to individuals, corporations or other organizations. CHO's supporting membership category includes a steadily growing number of paid-up groups and individuals as members.

The idea of a province-wide organization of municipally appointed heritage advisory committees was first put forward at the 1988 LACAC conference in Sault Ste. Marie, and a steering committee was created to investigate the proposal. Two years later, in Guelph in 1990, the steering committee's recommendation for the creation of the new organization was adopted and an interim board was elected. The work of the interim board paved the way for the official establishment of Community Heritage Ontario at the 1992 conference in Peterborough and the election of its first twenty-member board of directors drawn from the six regions of Ontario.

At first, CHO operated on the revenue generated by membership fees, supplemented by individual project-by-

project government grants. It was only in the past year that CHO became one of the province-wide organizations to receive a provincial operating grant. This assistance from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation is greatly appreciated by the CHO Board of Directors and membership.

Since its formation, Community Heritage Ontario has taken on many of the activities formerly conducted by the Ministry itself. For example, in 1993, CHO assumed responsibility for producing CHO News, a quarterly publication which combines the former CHO Newsletter and the Ministry's LACAC News. CHO News is distributed to all of the approximately 200 LACACs existing in Ontario, providing a forum for the dissemination of information arising from both the Ministry and the local communities.

Similarly, CHO has taken on the responsibility, previously carried out by the Ministry, for presenting series of educational and technical workshops across the province, designed for members of LACACs, municipal heritage staff, heritage property owners and all interested others. CHO, with the support of the Ministry and a private enterprise partner, Benjamin Moore & Co. Inc., has just completed its 1995-1996 workshop series on paint conservation and heritage planning. The latter topic provided the opportunity for CHO to provide the latest information on the government's new provincial planning legislation and policies to those in attendance. As indicated on the workshop evaluation forms filled out at the sessions, the response from participants has been extremely positive, with enthusiastic support for a future series of workshops.

Another major CHO undertaking has been the CHO Conferences (Ottawa 93 and London 95), carrying on the tradition of the LACAC Conferences formerly conducted by the Ministry. The London conference was the site of the first Community Heritage Ontario Policy Forum, resulting in the adoption of the CHO Provincial Policy Statement, recently published and circulated to all CHO members. Copies may be obtained from the Corporate Secretary, CHO, 24 Conlins Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1C 1C3.

CHO recognizes the desirability of forming partnerships to assist in carrying out its future activities. In addition to the partnerships with our member organizations, the Ministry and others, for example, ICOMOS Canada and Heritage Canada for our 1993 Ottawa Conference, Community Heritage Ontario has recently

partnered, as *ACORN* readers will be aware, with our fellow province-wide organization, The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. The book fair held this April in Woodstock was by all accounts a success. Partnerships are intended to be a component of our own upcoming CHO fall 1997 conference and other future CHO endeavours.

In addition, CHO has urged action on the passage and implementation of effective new heritage legislation.

Community Heritage Ontario appreciates the fact that over the past year the Government of Ontario has acknowledged the need for new heritage legislation, as evidenced by the recent enactment of the housekeeping amendments to the existing Ontario Heritage Act contained in Bill 20, and by the passing of special legislation to give greater protection to designated heritage properties in Scarborough, Milton and Brantford.

CHO would very much welcome the Province's giving priority to the consideration of the other necessary elements of the heritage legislation contained in the April 1995 "A New Ontario Heritage Act; A Draft for Discussion" and its subsequent revisions.

Members of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario are cordially invited to attend any of the CHO-sponsored events such as the conferences and workshops referred to above. The sharing of information and activities between our two organizations with their closely related goals can only be of benefit to both.

Marcia Cuthbert is on the Board of Directors of Community Heritage Ontario, currently serving as one of the two Vice-Presidents of the organization. A Special Projects Officer with the Toronto Historical Board, Marcia has been a member of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario since the mid-1960s.

Photo Contest Winner

The photo contest described on the back inside cover of *ACORN* XX Summer-Fall, 1995, was won by Tom Cruickshank, editor of Century Home Magazine and ACO member from Port Hope. He correctly identified each of the photographs.

The correct answers are:

1. Britannia School House, Mississauga.
2. Vernacular House, Chestnut Street, Brantford.
3. Castle Kilbride, Baden.
4. Niagara Power House, Niagara Falls.
5. Canada Southern Railway Station, St. Thomas.
6. Old City Hall, Cambridge.
7. Cruickston Park, Cambridge.
8. Bluestone House, Port Hope.
9. Embro Town Hall.
10. St. Mark's Church, Port Hope.
11. Beaverdam's Church, Thorold.
12. Skinner-Jackson House, Camden East.
13. Barnum House, Grafton.
14. Meikle House, Morrisburg.
15. McCauley House, Picton.

Thank you to all who participated and congratulations, Tom!

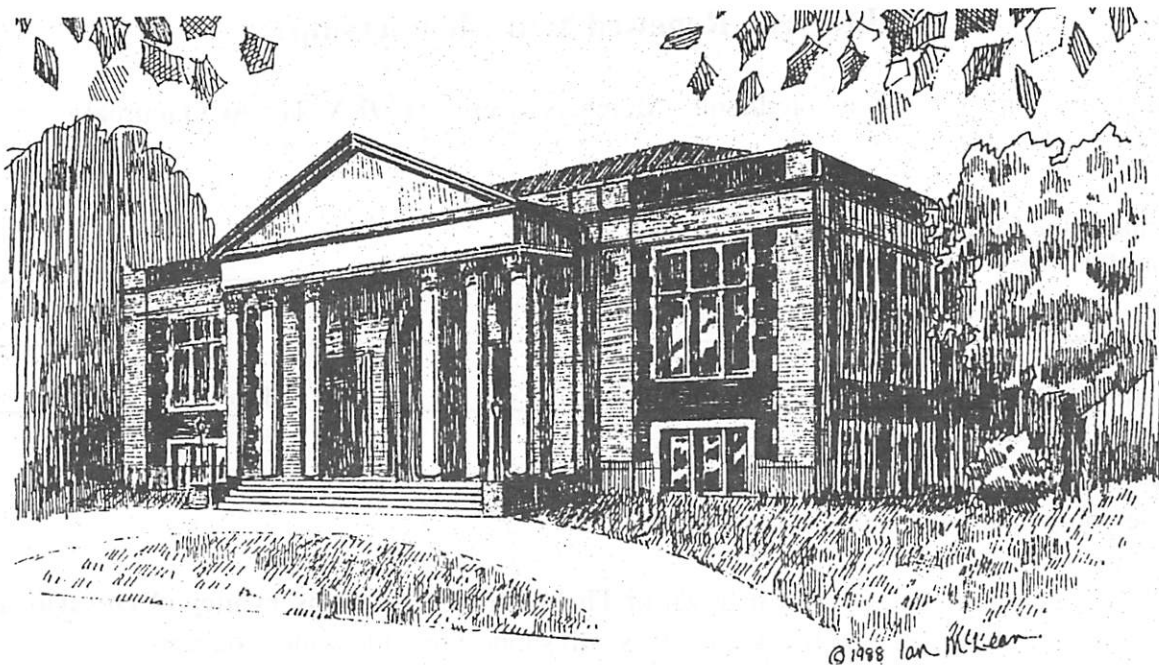


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Carnegie Library, Woodstock, Ont. Artist, Ian McLean. Courtesy of Sheila Johnson, Curator, Woodstock Museum.

Calendar of Events

September 26—*Discover Your Community*, London. A workshop of the Ontario Historical Society. For more information, call (416) 226-9011.

September 29—Walking tour of Kingsway Park, Etobicoke. Free. For more information, call (416) 947-1066.

Continuing until December 31—200 Years Yonge - Exhibit featuring archival maps, drawings and photographs of Toronto's most famous street. For more information, call The Toronto Historical Board (416) 392-6827.

October 5—Port Hope Annual House Tour. See ad.

October 9—*Discover Your Community*, St. Catharines. A workshop of the Ontario Historical Society. For more information, call (416) 226-9011.

October 12-14—Thanksgiving in the 1890s at Woodside National Historic Site, Kitchener. For more information, call (519) 571-5684.

October 13—Walking tour of the Mountain Brow, Hamilton. Free. For more information, call (905) 529-6919.

October 19—*Discover Your Community*, Hamilton. A workshop of the Ontario Historical Society. For more information, call (416) 226-9011.

October 20—Walking tour of County Road # 8: Moira to Stirling, Quinte Region. For more information, call (613) 968-7576.

October 24-26—*Living on the Edge*, Windsor. The Ontario Museum Association annual conference. For more information, call (416) 348-8672.

October 25-27—*Home is Where the Hearth Is; the Contribution of Small Sites to our Understanding of Ontario's Past*, Kingston. Ontario Archaeological Society Annual Symposium. For more information, call (416) 730-0797.

October 26 & 27—Halloween Ghost Walk at Woodside National Historic Site, Kitchener, Ont. For more information, call (519) 571-5684.

November 2—Fund-raising dinner. See inside for details.

November 9—*Celebrations of the Early Settlers*, Milton. A workshop of the Ontario Historical Society. For more information, call (416) 226-9011.

November 10—Walking tour of downtown Hamilton churches and their interiors. Free. For more information, call (905) 529-6919.

November 16—*Documentation at Every Stage of a Heritage Conservation Project*. See inside for details.

November 17—Walking tour of Brighton, Qunite Region. For more information, call (613) 968-7576.

November 23—*Preparing for a Victorian Christmas in the 19th Century*, Kirby, A workshop of the Ontario Historical Society. For more information, call (416) 226-9011.

November 23-January 5—Christmas at William Lyon Mackenzie King's boyhood home as it was in 1891 at Woodside National Historic Site, Kitchener. For more information, call (519) 571-5684.

February 14-15, 1997—*Heritage: The Next Generation*; a conference on the future of heritage conservation in Ontario. For more information, call The Ontario Heritage Foundation at (416) 325-5000.

April 19 and 20, 1997—Landscape Conservation in Ontario. See call for papers.

Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Memberships and donations are tax-creditable. Members receive *ACORN*, The ACO journal.

STEP 1

Please complete the form below.

Mr./Ms/Miss/Mrs./Dr./No Title - First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

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STEP 2

Please circle your choice of options A or B.

- A. I would like to become an Ontario member of **The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario** and not be affiliated with any branch. All my annual dues will support provide-wide programs.

Categories of Membership and Annual Dues - Check one.

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> individual - \$ 30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> household - \$ 35.00 |
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In addition to my Ontario membership, I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____.

- B. I would rather be a member of **The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario** through the branch closest to me or another of my choice. A portion of my annual dues will support province-wide programs.

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STEP 3

Please return this form to: **The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario**
Suite 204, 10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3
Attention: A.K. Sculthorpe, President

If you chose **option A**, please enclose a cheque made payable to **The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario**.

If you chose **option B**, we will forward your application to the branch of your choice, and the branch will bill you.

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Brant County
London Region

Port Hope
Heritage Cambridge
Huron County

Toronto Region
North Waterloo
Windsor Region

Hamilton Region
Heritage Oxford

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We are proud to acknowledge all the donors and The ACO branches for their contributions to our 1996 campaign. Thanks to those listed below, we've reached our fund-raising goal; allowing The ACO to carry on its work this year.

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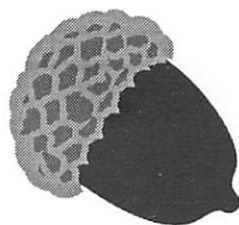
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